

Listing of Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claim 1 (currently amended).

Surgical needle (11) ~~characterised by the fact that it~~ which is atraumatic, ~~that it has~~ having two tips (12,12') and ~~that it consists~~ consisting of a tubular metal shaft, the central portion of which is equipped with a hole (10), through which emerges a surgical thread (13) that is anchored inside the needle (11).

Claim 2 (currently amended).

Needle (11) as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterised by the fact that~~ wherein its tips (12,12') are bevelled in one or more oblique planes and ~~that~~ the hole (10) through which the thread passes involves only one wall of the hollow shaft.

Claim 3 (currently amended).

Needle (11) as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterised by the fact that~~ wherein one end of the surgical thread (13) is inserted into the hole (10) of the needle (11) and is anchored by means of pinching.

Claim 4 (currently amended).

Needle (11) as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterised by the fact that~~ wherein the surgical thread (13) is equipped with a knot (14).

Claim 5 (currently amended).

Needle (11) as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterised by the fact that~~ wherein the end of the surgical thread (13) is inserted into the hole (10) of the atraumatic two- tipped needle (11), is made to emerge from one end (12), is equipped with a knot (14) and is then drawn back inside the shaft towards the hole (10).

Claim 6 (currently amended).

Needle (11) as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterised by the fact that~~ wherein the surgical thread (13), equipped in advance with a knot (14), is inserted into one end of the needle (11) and is made to emerge through the hole (10).

Claim 7 (currently amended).

Needle (11) as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterised by the fact that~~ wherein the end of the surgical thread (13) is inserted into the hole (10) and is anchored inside the atraumatic two-tipped needle (11) by means of a scotch (15), which is pushed down inside the needle from one of the two ends (12,12').

Claim 8 (currently amended).

Needle (11) as claimed in claim 7 ~~claims 1 and 5,~~
~~characterised by the fact that~~ wherein the scotch (15) may consist
of a solid bar or a portion of tube, made of metal or plastic, the
calibre of which is determined by the diameter of the needle (11).

Claim 9 (currently amended).

Needle (11) as claimed in claim 7 ~~1,~~ ~~characterised by the fact~~
~~that~~ wherein the scotch (15), when it has been placed in its final
position, is anchored inside the needle (11) by pinching, or by
means of glue (16) or other suitable fixing material.

Claim 10 (currently amended).

Needle (11) as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterised by the fact~~
~~that~~ wherein the surgical thread (13) is fixed to the needle (11)
by means of a single- or dual- component glue or other solidifying
material suited to the purpose.

Claim 11 (currently amended).

Needle (11) as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterised by the fact~~
~~that~~ wherein the end of the surgical thread (13) inserted into the
hole (10) emerges from one end (12,12') of the needle (11), and is

inserted and fixed into a hole in one end of a scotch, which is subsequently inserted into the needle (11).

Claim 12 (currently amended).

Needle (11) as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterised by the fact that~~ wherein the surgical thread (13) is fixed between the coils of a tiny spring, which is then inserted into the atraumatic two-tipped needle (11).

Claim 13 (currently amended).

Needle (11) as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterised by the fact that that~~ wherein the surgical thread (13) is fixed by means of two or more anchoring techniques.